

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims without prejudice as follows, wherein underlining identifies added material and strikethroughs identify deleted material:

Listing of Claims:

- Q' 1. (original) A television program distribution arrangement for use in connection with a server in a home area network, the television program distribution arrangement being configured to distribute television programming over a local video link, the television program distribution arrangement comprising: A. a television programming information receiver module configured to receive television programming information from a plurality of sources; B. a television programming information assembler module configured to assemble said television programming information as received by the television programming information receiver module into a unitary set of channels for transmission over the local link; and C. a control module configured to control the television programming information receiver module and the television programming information assembler module.
2. (original) A television program distribution arrangement as defined in claim 1 in which one of said sources provides television programming information over a unitary set of channels, the television programming information assembler module being configured to remove at least some of the television programming information from at least one of the channels and substitute television programming information from another of said sources in the at least one of the channels.
3. (original) A television programming information distribution arrangement as defined in claim 2 in which the at least one of the channels is selectable in response to channel selection information from a user.
4. (original) A television programming distribution arrangement as defined in claim 2 in which one of the sources is a local programming source.

5. (original) A television programming distribution arrangement as defined in claim 2 in which said one of said sources comprises a cable television programming provider.

6. (original) A television programming distribution arrangement as defined in claim 2 in which said one of said sources comprises a satellite television programming provider.

7. (original) A television programming distribution arrangement as defined in claim 2 in which said other of said sources comprises a pre-recorded television programming information source.

a' 8. (original) A television programming distribution arrangement as defined in claim 7 in which said pre-recorded television programming information source comprises a video cassette recorder.

9. (original) A television programming distribution arrangement as defined in claim 7 in which said pre-recorded television programming information source comprises a digital video disk.

10. (original) A television program distribution arrangement as defined in claim 1 further comprising a television programming information storage module, the control module being further configured to selectively enable television programming information received by said television programming information receiver module from one of said sources to be stored in the television programming information storage module, and thereafter retrieved from the television programming information storage module and provided to the television programming information assembler module for use by the television programming information receiver module in assembling the television programming information.

11. (original) A method of controlling a server in a home area network to provide television programming information over a local video link, the method comprising: A. a television programming information receiving step of receiving television programming information from a plurality of sources; B. a television programming information assembling step of

assembling said television programming information as received by the television programming information receiver module into a unitary set of channels for transmission over the local link.

12. (original) A method as defined in claim 11 in which one of said sources provides television programming information over a unitary set of channels, the television programming information assembling step including the steps of removing at least some of the television programming information from at least one of the channels and substituting television programming information from another of said sources in the at least one of the channels.

a' 13. (original) A method as defined in claim 12 in which the at least one of the channels is selectable in response to channel selection information from a user, the television programming information assembling step including the steps of receiving the channel selection information and using the channel selection information in assembling the television programming information.

14. (original) A method as defined in claim 12 in which one of the sources is a local programming source.

15. (original) A method as defined in claim 12 in which said one of said sources comprises a cable television programming provider.

16. (original) A method as defined in claim 12 in which said one of said sources comprises a satellite television programming provider.

17. (original) A method as defined in claim 12 in which said other of said sources comprises a pre-recorded television programming information source.

18. (original) A method as defined in claim 17 in which said pre-recorded television programming information source comprises a video cassette recorder.

19. (original) A method as defined in claim 17 in which said pre-recorded television programming information source comprises a digital video disk.

20. (original) A method as defined in claim 11 including A. a television program information storage step of selectively storing television programming information received by said television programming information receiver module from one of said sources in a television programming information storage module, and B. a television program information retrieval step of retrieving previously-recorded television programming information from the television programming information storage module for use in assembling the television programming information during the television programming information assembling step.

a' 21. (original) A computer program product for use in connection with a programmable device to provide a television program distribution arrangement for use in connection with a server in a home area network, the television program distribution arrangement being configured to distribute television programming over a local video link, the computer program product comprising a device readable medium having encoded thereon: A. a television programming information receiver module configured to enable the device to receive television programming information from a plurality of sources; B. a television programming information assembler module configured to enable the device to assemble said television programming information as received by the television programming information receiver module into a unitary set of channels for transmission over the local link; and C. a control module configured to enable the device to control the television programming information receiver module and the television programming information assembler module.

22. (original) A computer program product as defined in claim 21 in which one of said sources provides television programming information over a unitary set of channels, the television programming information assembler module being configured to enable the device to remove at least some of the television programming information from at least one of the channels and substitute television programming information from another of said sources in the at least one of the channels.

23. (original) A computer program product as defined in claim 22 in which the at least one of the channels is selectable in response to channel selection information from a user.

24. (original) A computer program-product as defined in claim 22 in which one of the sources is a local programming source.

25. (original) A computer program product as defined in claim 22 in which said one of said sources comprises a cable television programming provider.

a' 26. (original) A computer program product as defined in claim 22 in which said one of said sources comprises a satellite television programming provider.

27. (original) A computer program product as defined in claim 22 in which said other of said sources comprises a pre-recorded television programming information source.

28. (original) A computer program product as defined in claim 27 in which said pre-recorded television programming information source comprises a video cassette recorder.

29. (original) A computer program product as defined in claim 27 in which said pre-recorded television programming information source comprises a digital video disk.

30. (original) A computer program product as defined in claim 21 further comprising a television programming information storage module, the control module being further configured to enable the device to selectively enable television programming information received by said television programming information receiver module from one of said sources to be stored in the television programming information storage module, and thereafter retrieved from the television programming information storage module and provided to the television programming information assembler module for use by the television programming information receiver module in assembling the television programming information.

31. (new) A television program distribution arrangement for a home area network to distribute television programming information over a link to a plurality of television receivers, comprising:

a television programming information receiver module configured to receive television programming information, said television programming information receiver module including

a digital video recorder device that is configured to receive television programming information;

a television programming information assembler module configured to merge the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device and the television programming information receiver module into a unitary set of channels for distribution over the link to the television receivers of the home area network; and

a control module configured to control operation of the television programming information receiver module, the digital video recorder device, and the television programming information assembler module.

32. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the digital video recorder device is configured to store in digital form television programming information corresponding to the television programming information distributed over one of the unitary set of channels.

33. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 32 wherein the control module is configured to allow a user to select the television programming information that is stored in digital form in the digital video recorder device.

34. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 32 wherein the digital video recorder device is further configured to allow retrieval of the television programming information stored in digital form therein and distribution of the retrieved television programming information over a selected channel of the unitary set of channels.

35. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 34 wherein the control module is configured to allow a user to retrieve the television programming information stored in digital form in the digital video recorder device and distribute the retrieved television programming information over the selected channel to a selected one of the television receivers.

36. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the television programming information of the unitary set of channels is distributed in digital form over the link to the television receivers.

a' 37. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 36 wherein the digital form of the television programming information distributed to the television receivers comprises QAM digital waveforms.

38. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 36 wherein the digital form of the television programming information distributed to the television receivers comprises QPSK digital waveforms.

39. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the television programming information of the unitary set of channels is distributed in analog form over the link to the television receivers.

40. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device is in digital form.

41. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 40 wherein the digital form of the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device comprises QAM digital waveforms.

42. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 40 wherein the digital form of the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device comprises QPSK digital waveforms.

43. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 40 wherein the digital form of the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device comprises an MPEG-2 format.

44. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 40 wherein the digital form of the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device comprises an MPEG-4 format.

45. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device is in analog form.

46. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 45 wherein the analog form of the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device comprises standard NTSC analog waveforms.

47. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein a source of the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device is a cable link.

48. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 47 wherein the television programming information from the cable link is in analog form.

49. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 47 wherein the television programming information from the cable link is in digital form.

50. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein a source of the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device is a satellite link.
51. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the television programming information received by the television programming information receiver module is streaming video from a network link.
52. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the link to the television receivers of the home area network is a digital communications link.
53. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the link to the television receivers of the home area network is a local cable connection.
54. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the digital video recorder device is configured to communicate with a source providing the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device.
55. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 54 wherein communications from the digital video recorder device to a source providing the television programming information are in a QPSK format.
56. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 54 wherein the control module includes a remote control that is configured to communicate with a source providing the television programming information via the digital video recorder device.
57. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein:
at least one of the television receivers is an analog receiver; and wherein
the control module includes means for controlling viewing of the television programming information distributed over the unitary set of channels via the analog receiver.

58. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 57 wherein the control means comprises an IR remote control unit.

59. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein:
at least one of the television receivers is a digital receiver; and wherein
the control module includes means for controlling viewing of the television programming information distributed over the unitary set of channels via the digital receiver.

60. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 59 wherein the control means comprises an IR remote control unit.

61. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein:
at least one of the television receivers is a set-top box; and wherein
the control module includes means for controlling viewing of the television programming information distributed over the unitary set of channels via the set-top box.

62. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 61 wherein the control means comprises an IR remote control unit.

63. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the control module comprises a graphical user interface configured to allow a user to control operation of the digital video recorder device.

64. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 63 wherein the graphical user interface is provided to the user in a picture-in-picture format.

65. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 63 wherein the graphical user interface is provided to the user in a translucent overlay format.

66. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 31 wherein the unitary set of channels for the television programming information distributed over the link to the

television receivers is defined by the television programming information received by the digital video recorder device from a source; and wherein

the television programming information assembler module is configured to remove at least part of the television programming information from one channel of the unitary set of channels and substitute television programming information received by the television programming information receiver module in the one channel.

Q1 67. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 66 wherein the control module is configured to allow a user to select the one channel.

68. (new) The television program distribution arrangement of claim 66 wherein the control module is configured to allow a user to select the television programming information received by the television programming information receiver module for substitution in the one channel.
